

### **REMARKS**

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Advisory Action dated December 23, 2008. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication in the Advisory Action that the present application would be in condition for allowance if the withdrawn claims were cancelled. Applicant also acknowledges with appreciation the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the multiple telephone conferences regarding the present application.

Claims 1-7 and 13-16 are pending in this application. Claims 8-12 and 17-24 have been withdrawn from consideration. As mentioned above, the Advisory Action acknowledges that the present application will be considered in condition for allowance if the withdrawn claims were cancelled. The Examiner also indicated during the telephone conference of January 21, 2009, that the present application, including the pending claims, namely Claims 1-7 and 13-16, would be allowed if the withdrawn claims were cancelled. By this amendment, withdrawn Claims 18-12 and 17-24 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Applicant expressly reserves the right to file divisional applications or take such other appropriate measures deemed necessary to protect the withdrawn claims.

In light of the amendments and remarks present herein, Applicant respectfully submits that that the present application, which includes the pending claims, namely Claims 1-7 and 13-16, is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the pending claims of the present application, namely Claims 1-7 and 13-16.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the amendments and the remarks submitted above, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present invention.

Appl. No.: 10/720,701  
Amdt. dated 01/30/2009  
Reply to Office Action of December 23, 2008

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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**ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON January 30, 2009.**

LEGAL02/31133917v1